

CLAIMS

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 3-5, wherein said polypeptide has biological activity.
2. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide sequence.
3. A method of making a Pep356-related peptide, said method comprising the steps of:
 - i) providing a population of host cells capable of expressing the polypeptide of claim 1;
 - ii) culturing said population of host cells under conditions conducive to the expression of said polypeptide;
 - iii) isolating said polypeptide.
4. A Pep356-related peptide antibody that selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.
5. A method of binding an antibody to a protein comprising the steps of:
 - i) contacting an antibody that selectively binds the polypeptide of claim 1 with said polypeptide; and
 - ii) removing nonbinding contaminants.
6. A composition comprising the polypeptide according to claim 1, further comprising a carrier or diluent.
7. A method for modulating microfibril structure, comprising the step of contacting a polypeptide of claim 1 to a population of cells.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said composition is administered to an individual.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein said composition is administered by injection.
10. A method of identifying a candidate Pep356-related peptide modulator, said method comprising:
 - (a) contacting said Pep356-related peptide of Claim 1 with a test compound; and
 - (b) determining whether said compound selectively modulates a biological activity of said

Pep356-related peptide,

wherein a determination that said compound selectively modulates a Pep356-related activity indicates that said compound is a candidate Pep356-related peptide modulator.